

For Immediate Release April 19, 2000

Volunteers Needed for Air Pollution Study in Southeast Raleigh

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Research Triangle Park, NC......The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will be conducting a study of residents in Southeast Raleigh this summer to better understand when and how people are exposed to air pollution. Residents interested in participating can attend an informational meeting on Thursday, April 27, 7 p.m. - 8 p.m. at Shaw University's Student Union Ballroom, adjacent to the South Person Street entrance to the campus.

Participants in the study will be asked to wear two small air monitors for 28 days during their normal daily activities. The study is part of a major research effort at the EPA to learn more about particulate matter, one type of air pollutant that has been estimated to cause serious illness and even premature death. Sources of these small particles in the air include automobile exhaust, industrial manufacturing and forest fires.

People may be able to participate in the study if they are African American; 50 years of age or older; do not smoke or live around tobacco smokers; have not had a heart attack in the past six months; have controlled high blood pressure and plan to live at their residence for at least 18 months. Volunteers will be compensated up to \$440 for participating in the study by the contracting organization, Research Triangle Institute in Research Triangle Park, NC.

To find out how to participate in the study, contact Dr. Ade Ejire at Shaw University, 919-546-8204.